

DEC 18 2003

12/14/03

RCE

PTO/SB/30 (08-00)

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**REQUEST
FOR
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)
TRANSMITTAL**

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995.

See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

<i>Application Number</i>	10/028,238
<i>Filing Date</i>	December 21, 2001
<i>First Named Inventor</i>	Mikio ODA, et al.
<i>Group Art Unit</i>	2873
<i>Examiner Name</i>	Jessica T. Stultz
<i>Attorney Docket Number</i>	NEKU 19.296

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

NOTE: 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53 (d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Final Rule, 66 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114

- a. Previously submitted
 - i. Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on _____ (Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).
 - ii. Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____
 - iii. Other _____
- b. Enclosed
 - i. Amendment/Reply
 - ii. Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
 - iii. Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
 - iv. Other **PETITION FOR ONE MONTH EXTENSION**

2. Miscellaneous

- a. Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required)
- b. Other _____

3. Fees The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

- a. The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 50-1290

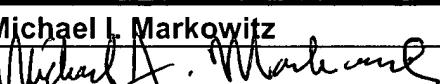
i. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e)	12/23/2003	AHNDNAF1	00000046	501290	10028238
ii. <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17)	01	FD:1801	770.00 DA		
iii. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____					
- b. Check in the amount of \$_____ enclosed
- c. Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

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SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print/Type)	Michael L. Markowitz	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	30,659
Signature		Date	DECEMBER 18, 2003

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as EXPRESS mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner For Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on:

Name (Print/Type)	Linda E. Hastings	Date	DECEMBER 18, 2003
Signature			

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